Shadow of Visions

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TONG LI COMICS

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Shadow of Visions

THE SONG DYNASTY
SHAN YU MU, AN ARTIST WHO CAN SEE AND PAINT
THE FUTURE, IS DRIVEN OUT OF HIS VILLAGE AS A HERETIC.
HAUNTED BY VISIONS OF COUNTLESS DISASTERS,
HE WANDERS AND ENCOUNTERS THE INNOCENT
AND SPIRITED YOUNG LADY, CHUEI YING SHUANG!
AFTER A TERRIFYING PROPHECY, THESE TWO WHO WERE STRANGERS
STEP ON A PATH TOWARD AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE.
WILL THEIR PATH BE BLESSED OR CURSED? THE ONLY
CERTAIN THING IS THAT THEY WILL WALK THAT PATH TOGETHER.

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幽夢影
第一集
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幽夢影

Shadow of Visions: Volume 1

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Shadow of Visions
Chapter 1:
Green Blood Inkstone

Guan Ying Temple
LET ME HAVE..
A GOOD FORTUNE..
SEVENTY-EIGHT..
IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME...
Wind and clouds come together to form a rain that falls to the ocean. Disaster will strike, and injury is certain. This is not a matter that can be solved in this lifetime. Consider leaving home.
MMM...

YING SHUANG! SISTER!
GET A GOOD FORTUNE?
Look what I found!
UM YES!
There you go again, always picking up weird stuff!
swipe
GREAT! THAT MEANS DAD'S BUSINESS WILL MAKE A LOT OF MONEY THIS YEAR!
MM
THIS IS THE THIRD BAD FORTUNE I'VE GOTTEN...
FATHER TOLD ME NOT TO TAKE IT TOO SERIOUSLY, BUT I AM STILL WORRIED.
I JUST DON'T WANT ANYTHING BAD TO HAPPEN...
OH, NO!
IS HE DEAD...?
OH! POOR GUY!
HOW PITIFUL

?
THIS MAN
Oh my gosh!
DON'T TOUCH HIM, YING SHUANG HE'S DEAD!

POOR BLIND MAN.
HE DIED ON THIS PATH!
EXCUSE ME, SIRS!
TAKE THIS MONEY!
IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE,
WOULD YOU HELP ME CARRY THIS MAN TO MY HOUSE?
Carry a dead man?
YING SHUANG, YOU PICKED UP AN EVEN WEIRDER THING THAN I DID!

Chuei Manor
DAUGHTER SHUANG,
YOU WENT UP TO THE MOUNTAIN AND BROUGHT HOME A DEAD MAN?
WHAT WILL YOUR FATHER SAY...?
Can't talk, busy!
MOTHER!
EVERYONE THOUGHT HE WAS DEAD, BUT THAT WAS JUST A MISTAKE. HE FAINTED
OH!
YOUNG MASTER WEN!

YING SHUANG, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO MARRY ME?
SEEZ, NOT THAT AGAIN!
I'M BUSY, MO YAN. CAN'T YOU SEE?
EXCUSES, EXCUSES
I'll speak to her on your behalf
Rejected again!
I CAN'T HELP BUT LIKE YING SHUANG...

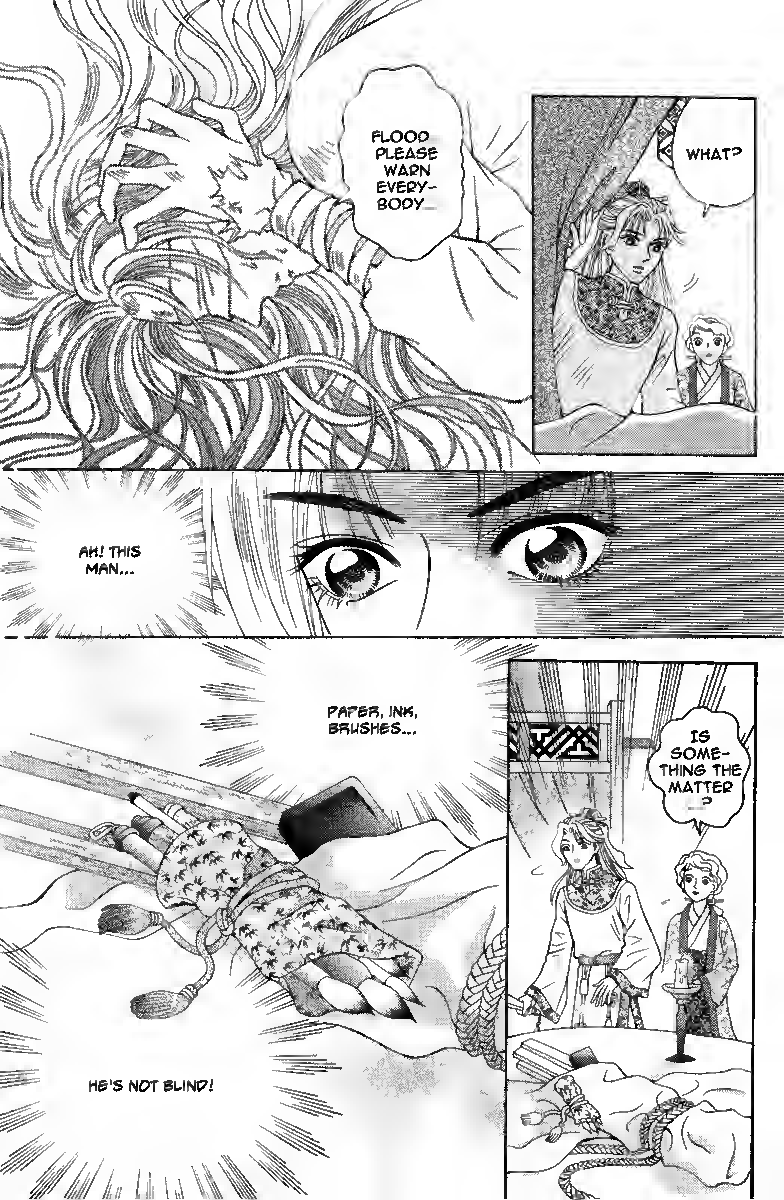
POOR THING...
YOU SHOULD REST
YING SHUANG,
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S COME ON A LONG JOURNEY...
A BLIND MAN WHO CAN'T SEE ANYTHING... WHY WOULD HE LEAVE HIS HOMETOWN?
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FAMILY, YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN UP YOUR YOUTH
I'm only sixteen!

EVERYONE KNOWS, EVEN THOUGH THE ELDEST SON WILL INHERIT THE FAMILY BUSINESS,
YING SHUANG IS THE REAL PRIZE OF THE CHUEI FAMILY. IT'S THANKS TO HER CARVING SKILLS THAT THE CHUEI FAMILY'S INKSTONE BUSINESS FAMOUS EVEN IN THE CAPITAL.
Chuei
HER HOUSEHOLD SKILLS ARE EXCELLENT, AND HER FAMILY IS WELL-LIKED AND RESPECTED.
ANY YOUNG MAN WOULD BE HAPPY TO MARRY HER!
AND SHE IS...

A TRASH COLLECTOR!
She'll grab anything Dogs, cats, turtles, chicken bones...
Yeah!
IT'S A HABIT! FATHER AND I HAVE PICKED UP ROCKS BY THE RIVER EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD!
BETTER TO TAKE IT THAN TO LEAVE IT!
BUT THIS TIME YOU PICKED UP A MAN!
That must be some kind of record!
MM...
AND A BLIND ONE!
FATHER WOULD DO THE SAME THING.

UGH HOW LONG..
WILL YOU MAKE ME WAIT FOR YOU?
GET HIM INTO SOME CLEAN CLOTHES...
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
!!!! !!!!

YOU'RE A LADY! HOW CAN YOU HELP A STRANGE MAN TO CHANGE CLOTHES!
BOOT!
NO SHAME!
WHAT'S THERE TO BE ASHAMED ABOUT? I HELPED YOU BATHE WHEN YOU WERE SMALL!
I'm still ten!
She must be out of her mind
MM... MONTH
THE FIRST OF THE MONTH
FLOOD


FLOOD PLEASE WARN EVERY-BODY...
WHAT?
AH! THIS MAN...
PAPER, INK, BRUSHES...
IS SOME-THING THE MATTER ?
HE'S NOT BLIND!

CAN IT BE... HE'S THE MAN WHOSE PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO CAUSE PANIC ACROSS THE LAND?
THE INFAMOUS PAINTER, SHAN YU MU?
HE HAS COME TO THE TOWN OF SHANG HE!

YOU ARE IMPROVING, DAUGHTER SHUANG.
WHAT WILL YOU TITLE THIS PIECE?
I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT YET.
I STILL WANT TO ADD MORE DETAIL.
Three days later...
THIS IS A GOOD DESIGN.
VERY NICE LINES.

YOU ALL SEEM TO BE HAVING A GOOD TIME.
FATHER!
WELL, WHEN YOU FINISH IT, YOU CAN GET MARRIED!
GREETINGS I AM SHAN YU MU I OFFER MY THANKS FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY
LOOK WHO HAS COME!
OH!

I HARDLY RECOGNIZE HIM AS THE MAN I BROUGHT HOME!
What a surprise!
YOUNG MASTER SHAN,
IT MUST BE HARD, BEING ALL BY YOURSELF IN AN UNFAMILIAR TOWN. REST HERE A FEW MORE DAYS WHILE I HIRE SOMEONE TO ESCORT YOU WHERE YOU WANT TO GO.
LI REN, DON'T!
BROTHER, YOU OUGHT TO GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO MY SISTER. SHE'S THE ONE WHO SAVED YOU!
SHE EVEN PEEKED THROUGH YOUR WINDOW EVERY DAY TO CHECK ON YOU!
CLONK

YING SHUANG WOULD NEVER DO THAT FOR ME!
SHE REALLY IS CLUELESS...
Keep your mouth shut!
...
MISS CHUEI, DO YOU BELIEVE IN PROPHECIES?
PROPHECIES?
HMM...

PAPER AND A BRUSH, PLEASE
I want to see this!
A blind man painting!

CAN HE SEE?
LIGHT-COLORED EYES!

..
..?
MISS CHUEI..

THIS IS_
Chuei

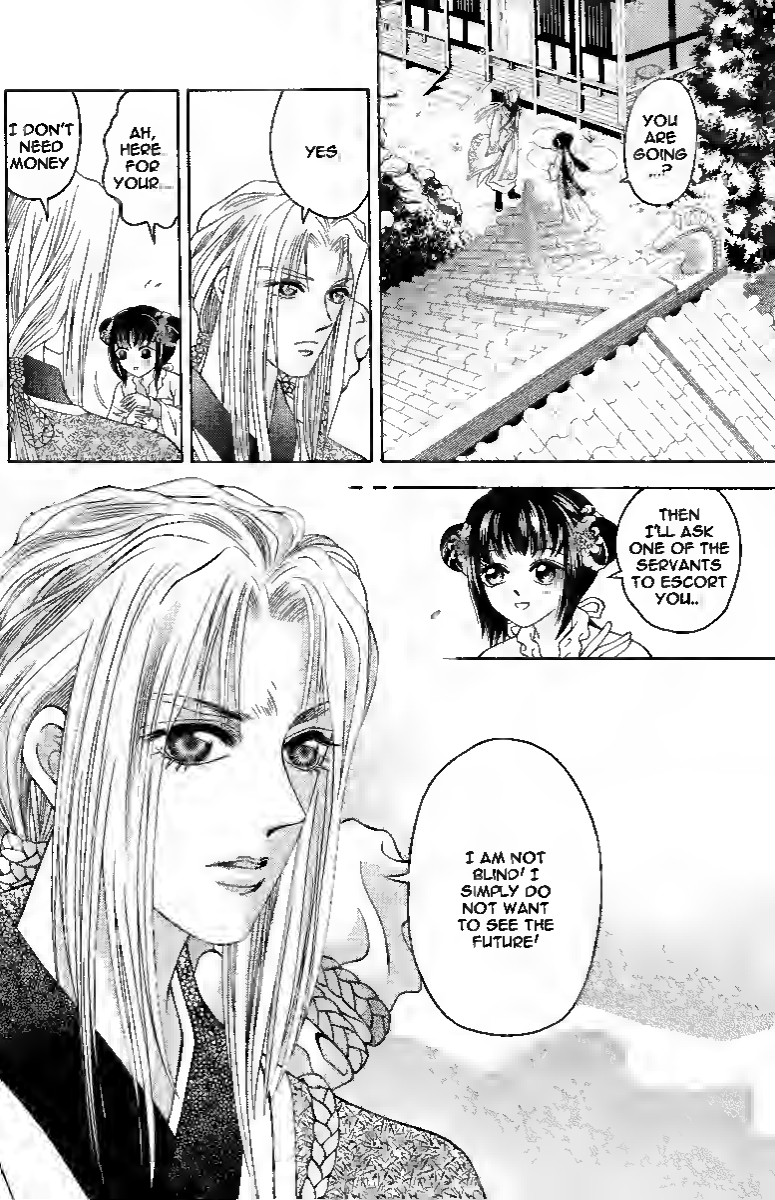
THE CHUEI FAMILY'S FUTURE!
Wind and clouds come together to form a rain that falls to the ocean. Disaster will strike, and injury is certain. This is not a matter that can be solved in this lifetime or leaving
AH...
FLAMES?
THE CHUEI MANOR WILL BE DESTROYED IN A FIRE?

LET'S SEND HIM AWAY TOMORROW!
WHAT BAD LUCK!
HE'S NOT BLIND AT ALL! HE'S A FRAUD!
MO-THER.
MASTER, WE HAVE GIVEN HIM ENOUGH!
TO-MORROW, LET'S GIVE HIM A BIT OF MONEY AND SEND HIM AWAY!
MO-THER
I HAVE HEARD RUMORS ABOUT THIS MAN, SHAN YU MU...

IN THE CHING PROVINCE, 300 PEOPLE, A WHOLE TOWN, DROWNED IN A FLOOD.
THE MASTER OF LU MANOR WAS MURDERED FOR NO APPARENT REASON
A PLAGUE KILLED HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE ACROSS THREE TOWNS IN THE WEST OF BIAN JING
A WEALTHY MERCHANT WAS FRAMED FOR A CRIME, LEADING TO HIS DEATH, AND LATER, THE BREAKUP OF HIS FAMILY.
THESE ARE ALL THINGS THAT HE PROPHESIZED!
MOTHER!
OH!

ANYWHERE THIS MAN GOES, DISASTER FOLLOWS!
MASTER! HE MUST BE SOME KIND OF SORCERER!
WHO KNOWS WHAT SORT OF DISASTER HE WILL BRING!
WE SHOULD SEND HIM AWAY AT ONCE!
Wind and clouds come together to form a rain that falls to the ocean. Disaster will strike, and injury is certain. This is not a matter that can be solved in this lifetime. Consider leaving home.
IS HE REALLY A FRAUD? WHAT HE SAID, ALONG WITH THE THREE BAD FORTUNES I'VE GOTTEN...

FA-THER! MO-THER!
I AM THE ONE WHO BROUGHT BROTHER SHAN HERE, SO LET ME BE THE ONE TO TELL HIM
YING SHUANG,
DON'T WORRY. I WILL PROTECT YOU!


I DON'T NEED MONEY
AH, HERE FOR YOUR...
YES
YOU ARE GOING ...?
THEN I'LL ASK ONE OF THE SERVANTS TO ESCORT YOU..
I AM NOT BLIND! I SIMPLY DO NOT WANT TO SEE THE FUTURE!

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE A FRAUD! CAN YOU PLEASE TELL ME MORE?
YOU BELIEVE?
I BELIEVE IN PROPHECIES...
I DIDN'T SEE JUST A FIRE
THERE WAS MORE
I ALSO SAW YOU
IN YOUR HAND...

YOU HELD A GREEN BLOOD INKSTONE

GREEN BLOOD INKSTONE?
BE AWARE OF THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU
YING SHUANG

GREEN BLOOD INKSTONE?
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT?
YING SHUANG! MO YAN IS HERE!
SO? HE COMES EVERY DAY
THIS TIME IS DIFFERENT! HE'S HERE WITH HIS PARENTS TO OFFICIALLY PROPOSE!
WHAT !?

Yes, very good! I think that's everything, then!
Ha ha ha...!
HERE ARE MY DAUGHTER'S FOUR PILLARS*
WAIT!
FATHER! MOTHER!
I HAVEN'T AGREED TO THIS MARRIAGE!

* A person's Four Pillars are their hour, day, month, and year of birth. These are important numbers that are used in fortune-telling

HE IS ALMOST LIKE FAMILY ALREADY! DON'T BE SHY
BUT...
OH, NOW DOESN'T YOUNG MASTER WEN TREAT YOU WELL ENOUGH?
YES! LET THE TWO OF THEM SPEAK ALONE
FATHER, MOTHER, PLEASE GO ON TALKING I WILL SPEAK TO YING SHUANG IN PRIVATE
I'M SORRY, MO YAN... BUT I AM NOT READY TO MARRY YOU...

I AM WORRIED.
ABOUT WHAT?
I'VE GOTTEN THREE BAD FORTUNES IN A ROW.
AND I DON'T THINK BROTHER SHAN WAS A FRAUD...
BROTHER SHAN'S EYES SEEM TO BE ABLE TO SEE THROUGH EVERYTHING.
SHAN MU YU?
ARE YOU ATTRACTED TO HIM?

WHAT...?
NO, OF COURSE NOT!
I JUST WANT TO CONTINUE WITH MY ART
IF I MARRY, I WILL ONLY HAVE TIME TO BE A WIFE I'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP CARVING INKSTONES
HM...

YING SHUANG...
I UNDER-STAND.
I WILL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, YOU KNOW!

I LIED TO MO YAN...
Three o'clock in the morning

BUT...
I JUST DON'T WANT TO MARRY HIM! I KNOW HE'S A KIND MAN...
IT'S NOT ABOUT MY ART AT ALL.
I WANT MORE THAN THAT...
SOMEONE WHO WILL GIVE ME A NEW LIFE...

SOMEONE WHO WILL TAKE ME AWAY FROM THIS LITTLE VILLAGE. SOMEONE WHO'S WILLING TO TRAVEL WITH ME TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH! TO JOIN ME IN EXPERIENCING ALL THE WONDERS OF THIS GREAT BIG WORLD...
I DON'T WANT TO JUST STAY IN THIS MANOR MY WHOLE LIFE!
I WANT THE KIND OF FREEDOM THAT BROTHER SHAN HAS.
HUH? WHAT'S THAT SMELL?
CRACKLE CRACKLE
SMELLS LIKE SMOKE...

FIRE!
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
IT'S A FIRE!
FATHER! MOTHER!
LI REN!

WHAT?
IT WON'T
OPEN?
CLACK
RATTLE
WHAT'S
GOING ON?
WHY WON'T
IT OPEN?
FATHER!
MOTHER!
OPEN THE
DOOR!
BANG
BANG
BANG
OPEN THE
DOOR! FIRE!
FATHER!
MOTHER!

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
FIRE!
COUGH COUGH
COUGH COUGH
THE WINDOW
THE WINDOW IS LOCKED TOO!
WHY ?

COUGH
COUGH...
COUGH...
COUGH...
FATHER...
LET ME OUT!
LET ME OUT!
IT CAME TRUE!
THE PROPHECY
CAME TRUE!
COUGH
COUGH

SHAN YU MU'S PROPHECY CAME TRUE.
THE CHUEI MANOR WILL BE DESTROYED IN A FIRE.
creak
cough
THE DOOR OPENED ...?
cough

FATHER! MOTHER!
MISS CHUEI! THIS WAY, HURRY!
WHERE ARE FATHER, MOTHER AND LI REN?
CRACKLE
THIS WAY!
PERHAPS THEY ALREADY ESCAPED! LET'S GO! THE FIRE IS SPREADING!
OVER THERE!

PUT OUT THE FIRE!
FIRE BRIGADE!
CRACKLE
PUT OUT THE FIRE!
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
AH!
FATHER! MOTHER! LI REN!
YING SHUANG!
MO YAN!

YING SHUANG!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!
WHERE ARE FATHER, MOTHER AND LI REN?
DID YOU SAVE THEM?
YING SHUANG...
WHAT?
BY THE TIME I GOT HERE WITH THE FIRE BRIGADE,
THE MAIN HOUSE WAS ALREADY BURNED TO THE GROUND. IT WAS TOO LATE...

YOUR FATHER, MOTHER AND LI REN WERE ALREADY...
KILLED IN THE FIRE...
FATHER! MOTHER! LI REN!

YING SHUANG! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU'RE WRONG! I'M GOING TO FIND THEM!
YING SHUANG... CALM DOWN...
LET GO OF ME! LET GO!
LOOK OVER THERE...
THERE THEY ARE...

THEIR BODIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN CARRIED OUT
LI REN!
MOTHER!
FATHER!

I. I. DON'T HAVE.
ANYTHING NOT ANYMORE.
YOU STILL HAVE ME!
I WILL ALWAYS PROTECT YOU, YING SHUANG ALWAYS!
WAH!
WAH!

WHAT A TRAGEDY!
NO ONE COULD HAVE KNOWN!
THE WHOLE FAMILY KILLED IN ONE NIGHT!
ONLY THE DAUGHTER SURVIVED!
A GIRL ALONE, ALL BY HERSELF
THIS MAN IS THE CULPRIT?
I HEAR HE IS A JINX!
HE CAUSES TROUBLE EVERY PLACE HE GOES!
Wen Manor
WANTED
THAT'S HIM! HE BRINGS DISASTER!
SHAN YU MU!

IT'S EASY TO MAKE ACCURATE PROPHE-CIES
IF YOU JUST GO OUT AND MAKE BAD THINGS HAPPEN YOUR-SELF
SHAN YU MU MUST BE THE CULPRIT
YING SHUANG
MY FATHER HAS ALREADY DISPATCHED OFFICERS TO FIND SHAN YU MU
TRUST ME! HE WILL BE CAPTURED AND BROUGHT TO JUSTICE! YOUR FAMILY WILL BE AVENGED!

I'M TIRED, MO YAN...
YING SHUANG...
THE DEAD CANNOT COME BACK.
LOOK TO THE LIVING
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF FOR ME?
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.
YES, SIR.

THIS IS A GOOD DESIGN
YOU ARE IMPROVING
DAUGHTER SHUANG
LOOK WHAT I FOUND!
I...
ALL I HAVE LEFT IS THIS INKSTONE...

YING SHUANG! YING SHUANG!
THAT'S GOOD NEWS!
SHAN YU MU HAS BEEN ARRESTED!
YOUR FAMILY CAN BE AVENGED!
,
THIS IS WONDERFUL! YOU CAN FINALLY GET YOUR WISH!
HE DIDN'T RESIST HE MUST HAVE KNOWN THERE WOULD BE NO ESCAPING.

MO YAN, LET ME SPEAK WITH HIM IN PRIVATE

I WANT TO KNOW...
SHAN YU MU!
DID YOU START THE FIRE THAT KILLED MY FAMILY?

NO
AH
CAN YOU PROVE THAT?
WHAT IS IT?
MY FOUR PILLARS, AND A NOTE FROM FATHER?
TWO DAYS AFTER I LEFT YOUR HOME

I FEEL I CAN TRUST YOU, YOUNG MASTER SHAN.
WHEN I SAW YOUR EYES, I DECIDED THAT YOU ARE AN HONEST MAN
I AM REQUESTING THIS FAVOR AS YOUR SENIOR YOU MUST ACCEPT
TAKE MY DAUGHTER'S FOUR PILLARS AND THIS NOTE
PLEASE KEEP THEM FOR ME WHEN THE TIME COMES, RETURN THEM TO MY DAUGHTER
Whatever happens, live the life that you want to
Father
FATHER...

FA-
THER...
I NEVER GUESSED THE TIME WOULD BE SO NEAR
LIKE MY FATHER, I'VE ALWAYS TRUSTED YOU...
I KNOW YOU ARE NOT GUILTY
WHY DIDN'T YOU EXPLAIN WHEN THEY ARRESTED YOU?
I'VE HAD ENOUGH...
I AM SO TIRED...

IT'S MISERABLE TO SEE THE FUTURE. I'M ALWAYS PERSE-CUTED.
I TRY TO WARN PEOPLE, BUT NOBODY BELIEVES. I CAN ONLY WATCH AS PEOPLE DIE.
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
KEEP THIS!
MY FATHER GAVE IT TO YOU.
WHY SHOULD YOU BE THE SCAPE-GOAT FOR THE REAL CRIMINAL? I'LL SAVE YOU!

YOU NEED NOT BOTHER I AM SO TIRED OF ALL OF THIS I NO LONGER WANT TO SEE THE FUTURE
I WANT TO CLOSE MY EYES FOR THE LAST TIME
Court

YOUR FALSE PROPHE-CIES
ARE A FORM OF FRAUD,
AND ARSON WHICH LED TO THE DEATH OF THREE MEMBERS OF THE CHUEI FAMILY,
Courthouse
SHAN YU MU, DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE CRIMES THAT YOU ARE ACCUSED OF?
WAIT!
I AM CHUEI YING SHUANG! I WISH TO SPEAK!

PARDON ME, YOUR HONOR.
WHAT IS YING SHUANG DOING HERE?
WHAT SAY YOU?
YOUR HONOR, SHAN YU MU IS NOT GUILTY!
YING SHUANG!
MISS CHUE!
Courthouse
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT, MISS CHUE!?

I HAVE PROOF!
MISS CHUEI, THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MATTER. WHAT IS YOUR PROOF?
YING SHUANG, THIS IS A COURT OF LAW, YOU CAN'T JUST MAKE THINGS UP!
?
THE NIGHT OF THE FIRE...

BROTHER SHAN WAS WITH ME IN MY ROOM!
I LIKE HIM, YOU SEE, SO I INVITED HIM TO MY ROOM, AND WE TALKED ALL NIGHT.
BROTHER SHAN DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT THAT BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT TO HURT MY REPUTATION.
Woah!

YES! BUT THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY REPUTATION!
SO IT CONCERNS YOUR REPUTATION, MISS CHUE!
YING SHUANG! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
AND I HAVE MORE EVIDENCE!
EXCUSE ME, BROTHER SHAN...

THIS CONTAINS MY FOUR PILLARS.
I GAVE IT TO BROTHER SHAN WHEN WE SECRETLY GOT ENGAGED.
YING SHUANG!
MISS CHUEI IS TELLING SUCH OUTRAGEOUS LIES!
SHAN YU MU, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO RELEASE YOU FOR NOW.

I THOUGHT MISS CHUEI WAS MARRYING YOUNG MASTER WEN?
WAS SHE NOT?
SO SHE ALREADY HAD A LOVER!
WHAT ABOUT YOUNG MASTER WEN?
SHH
THERE SHE IS
AH..
WHAT A REBELLIOUS YOUNG LADY!
SHH!
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?
Let's go!
WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING?

I'M ALWAYS PERSE-CUTED...
DEVIL!
FRAUD!
JINX!
CHAR-LATAN!
I WONDER HOW MUCH SUFFERING BROTHER SHAN HAS ENDURED...
I'M ALREADY USED TO PEOPLE AVOIDING ME
NOW YOU WILL ALSO HAVE TO GET USED TO IT
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND!
BROTHER SHAN!
I'M GOING TO WEN MANOR TO SAY GOOD-BYE WILL YOU WAIT FOR ME?
!!!
WHY DID YOU HELP ME? WE ARE STRANGERS
WHY SHOULD YOU DIE WHILE THE REAL CRIMINAL LIVES?
YOU MUST KNOW WHO THE REAL CRIMINAL IS! TELL ME!

FINDING OUT WOULD DO YOU NO GOOD
LET ME DECIDE THAT FOR MYSELF.
MARRY THE MAN WHO LOVES YOU. PERHAPS THEN YOUR LIFE WILL BE HAPPY.
MARRY HIM?
WILL I BE HAPPY? CAN YOU SEE?
I DON'T WANT ANY MORE TROUBLE
TROUBLE?
SO YOU CONSIDER ME TROUBLE?

KNOCK KNOCK
MO YAN!
IT'S SO LATE
SO YOU CONSIDER ME TROUBLE?
I MUST AVENGE FATHER, MOTHER AND LI REN!
EVEN IF I HAVE TO DO IT ALL BY MYSELF, I WILL FIND THE REAL CRIMINAL.
UM,
ARE YOU DRUNK?

I HEAR YOU'RE LEAVING?
YES. I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE YOU...
WHY DID YOU LIE FOR SHAN YU MU?
I DIDN'T LIE...
THEY WERE ALL LIES! I KNOW!

I KNOW BECAUSE I WAS THE ONE WHO LOCKED YOUR DOOR, AND UNLOCKED IT. I STARTED THE FIRE!
IT WAS ME!
YOU...? MO YAN, YOU MUST BE VERY DRUNK...
AND I'M NOT DRUNK.
YOU HEARD ME, YING SHUANG!

WHAT ARE YOUR FATHER, MOTHER AND BROTHER? YOUR FAMILY BUSINESS? THEY'RE ALL EXCUSES!
I PLANNED THIS FOR SO LONG, BUT THAT MAN SAW THROUGH IT!
WHEN WILL YOU TAKE NOTICE OF ME? ONLY WHEN THEY'RE ALL OUT OF THE WAY!

BE AWARE OF THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.
HE WAS TALKING ABOUT MO YAN!
WHY, MO YAN? I NEVER SUSPECTED YOU...
I KILLED FOR YOU! REMEMBER THAT!
HA EVEN BETTER

SHAN YU MU TOOK THE BLAME!
LET GO OF ME!
THEY ALL DIED...
AND IT WAS MY FAULT!
SMASH
LET GO OF ME! LET GO OF ME! MO YAN, YOU MONSTER!
FATHER... MOTHER... LI REN... THEY...

HUFF HUFF...
HUFF HUFF...
...
DID... DID I KILL HIM?
BLOOD?

THIS... THIS IS THE GREEN BLOOD INKSTONE!
I CAN'T STAY HERE... I HAVE TO GET AWAY...
RUN AWAY...
RUN AWAY...
RUN...
QUICKLY!

BROTHER SHAN?
MISS CHUEI!
I
AM I A JINX?
IF IT WASN'T FOR ME, FATHER, MOTHER AND LI REN WOULD STILL BE ALIVE! IT'S MY FAULT THEY DIED!
I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE STARTED THE FIRE MYSELF!

NEVER COME BACK HERE!
GET OUT OF HERE, YOU JINX!
GO AWAY!
JINX! DEVIL!
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!
I'M SORRY...
YOU ARE DEFINITELY NOT TROUBLE.

OH...!
YOU ONLY KNOCKED HIM UNCONSCIOUS
AH... I KILLED SOMEONE...
Wah...
LET'S LEAVE THIS PLACE...
AND GO SOMEPLACE FAR AWAY.

CATCH THEM AND BRING THEM BACK!
CRASH
Wen
YOUNG MASTER...!
YING SHUANG!
I'VE DONE SO MUCH FOR YOU! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?
DO YOU THINK I WILL LET YOU ESCAPE?

A thousand brilliant nights,
Drift farther and farther away.
My memories...
Are like a lake with five boats.

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Chapter 2: Crimson Red Cherry

THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS SEEM TO BE BLOOMING EXCEPTIONALLY WELL THIS YEAR
HOW LOVELY!
DON'T DAWDLE!
SWEEP UP THOSE PETALS!
Almighty!
HEY!
GOOD MORNING! DID YOU SLEEP WELL?
YES, I DID, THANK YOU.

!!
MISS, DID YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND FIGHT?
?
I'm not married
EVERY NIGHT I SEE HIM SLEEPING OUTSIDE
HE'S NEVER IN THE ROOM AT NIGHT
He'll catch a cold!
BROTHER SHAN
EVERY PLACE WE TRAVEL.. HE ALWAYS SAYS...
YOU SLEEP IN THE ROOM! I HAVE ANOTHER PLACE TO BE, DON'T WORRY
COME ON, MISS. FORGIVE HIM AND LET HIM SLEEP INSIDE TONIGHT!
DON'T BE SO HARD ON A BLIND MAN!
No! That's not it
Nosey!
AH!
AFTER ALL, WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE OUT AND YOU'RE IN BED, YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT FROM THE BLIND.
BROTHER SHAN!

Barely just woke up...
HURRY INSIDE AND GET SOME REST! I'M LEAVING ON SOME ERRANDS!
HIS BODY IS COVERED IN CHERRY BLOSSOM PETALS.
YOU ARE AWAKE, YING SHUANG
IT'S ALREADY BEEN ONE MONTH...
SINCE BROTHER SHAN BROUGHT ME OUT OF THE TOWN OF SHANG HE...
I KNOW...
LITTLE MISS, DON'T YOU NEED BREAK-FAST?

AT FIRST, IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF MY REPUTATION. HE CAMPED OUTSIDE WHILE I STAYED IN THE INN ALONE...
AND THEN, OUR TRAVELLING BUDGET MUST HAVE BEEN USED UP...
I HAVE DECIDED! I WILL SELL MY LAST POSSESSION, THIS INKSTONE, SO WE WILL HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR A WHILE...
EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE ONLY KEEPSAKE I HAVE OF MY FAMILY...
I CANNOT BE SENTIMENTAL. I MUST DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP BROTHER SHAN!
MISS!

IS SHAN YU MU STAYING AT THAT INN OVER THERE?
MAY I ASK,
AH..
SUCH A BEAUTIFUL LADY!
I'LL PAY.
CLINK
I HAVE HEARD MUCH ABOUT MR SHAN'S INFAMY
I HAVE COME HERE TODAY TO REQUEST A PAINTING FROM HIM

I AM WAN XIANG I WORK AT SHANG CHUN GARDEN
I WISH TO KNOW IF I WILL WIN THE MISS BIAN SHUI BEAUTY PAGEANT, WHICH IS IN TEN DAYS
THIS SHOULD BE SIMPLE! BROTHER SHAN...
AH!
NO! I WILL NEVER PAINT AGAIN
BROTHER SHAN! WE NEED THE MONEY!
DON'T FRET ABOUT IT, MR. SHAN.

EVERYONE IS A PAWN OF FATE. I WANT TO KNOW MY FATE BEFORE IT COMES, SO I CAN BE PREPARED FOR IT.
I BELIEVE I CAN CHANGE FATE!
WHEN I WAS SEVEN YEARS OLD, MY FATHER SOLD ME TO SHANG CHUN GARDEN. THAT DAY, I DECIDED...
NO MATTER HOW MUCH HUMILIATION I SUFFER,
I STILL MUST CHANGE MY FATE!

FINALLY....
IT TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT TO RISE TO THE TOP POSITION AT SHANG CHUN GARDEN. I'VE SAVED MONEY, AND IT'S NEARLY ENOUGH TO BUY BACK MY FREEDOM...
YET A FEW DAYS AGO, MY FATHER, MY ONLY RELATIVE, DIED OF AN ILLNESS. I SPENT ALL MY SAVINGS BURYING HIM IN MY HOMETOWN. HE HAD BEEN POOR ALL HIS LIFE.
ONCE AGAIN, I HAVE NOTHING!
BUT I DO NOT WANT TO LIVE A POOR LIFE ANYMORE! I WANT TO SAVE ENOUGH MONEY BEFORE I'M TWENTY-FIVE AND THEN MARRY BROTHER TONG AND LIVE AN ORDINARY LIFE.
HOWEVER, I AM NOT LONELY. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I RETURNED TO MY HOMETOWN IN TEN YEARS, AND I FOUND OUT THAT MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND, BROTHER TONG, WAS STILL WAITING FOR ME.
BROTHER SHAN, YOU MUST HELP MISS WAN XIANG
HOW BRAVE!
THAT'S WHY I MUST THE THE BEAUTY PAGEANT AND THE PRIZE MONEY!

IT'S BEST IF YOU GIVE UP ON THE BEAUTY PAGEANT. RETURN TO YOUR VILLAGE STRAIGHT AWAY!
BROTHER SHAN! YOU DIDN'T EVEN LOOK AT MISS WAN XIANG!
WHAT?

WAN XIANG...
OPEN YOUR EYES...
WHY DON'T YOU...
IS IT THAT YOU THINK I CAN'T WIN THE CONTEST?
AND TAKE A LOOK BEFORE YOU SAY ANYTHING ELSE...?

GIVE IT UP!
HMPH!
MISS WAN XIANG! PLEASE WAIT!
BANG!

WAIT!
PLEASE WAIT, MISS WAN XIANG!
TAKE THIS WITH YOU!
?
HUH? IS THIS NOT A PRECIOUS CHUEI FAMILY INKSTONE, WORTHY OF A SCHOLAR?
IT IS
THIS IS THE LAST INKSTONE THAT THE CHUEI FAMILY PRODUCED. I BELIEVE IT WILL SELL FOR A GOOD PRICE.
WHY ARE YOU HELPING ME?

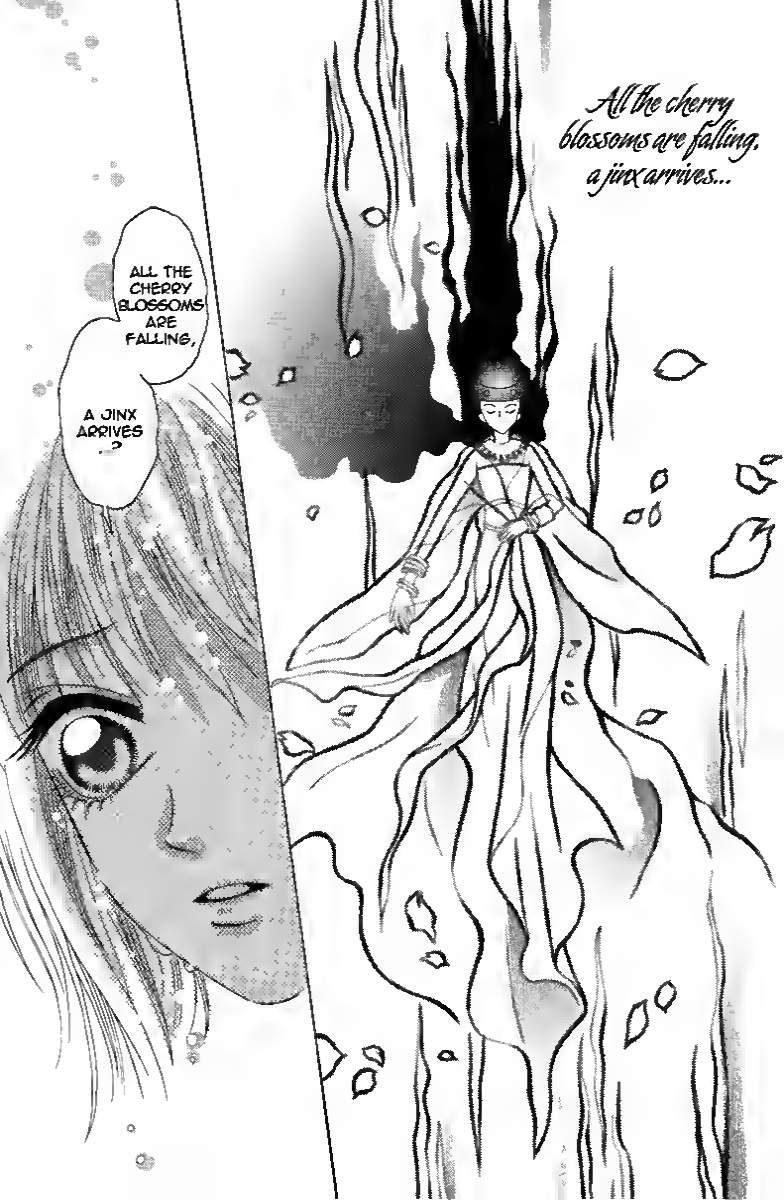
THIS WAY, WE CAN LIVE OUR LIVES TO THE FULLEST.
I BELIEVE DREAMS SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN UP SO EASILY.
AS WOMEN, WE TOO CAN STILL PURSUE OUR DREAMS!
BECAUSE THIS WORLD DOES NOT BELONG ONLY TO MEN!
I NEED A LOT OF MONEY!
I don't have any
WELL THEN, WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP YOU?
GOOD, LITTLE SISTER!

I WANT TO GO TO THE MAGISTRATE AND RAISE A SUIT AGAINST THE SON OF THE MAGISTRATE IN THE NEXT TOWN! TO SEEK REVENGE FOR MY FAMILY! I HOPE THAT SOMEDAY YOU WILL SPONSOR ME.
REVENGE?
MY DEAR YOUNGER SISTER, BELIEVE ME!
IF I WIN THE PAGEANT, I WILL DEFINITELY HELP YOU BRIBE THE JUDGE SO YOU CAN WIN THE LAWSUIT
THIS WILL BE OUR PROMISE.

WHAT KIND OF PAINTING WOULD MISS WAN XIANG HAVE?
IT WOULDN'T HELP TO TELL HER
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT FATE CAN'T BE CHANGED!
FATE CAN ONLY BE CHANGED...
IF ONE GIVES UP EVERY-THING NOT EVERYONE IS ABLE TO DO THAT

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WHEN YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TRIED?
CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE MORE OPTIMISTIC?
I BELIEVE THAT IF YOU HELP MISS WAN XIANG, HER FATE WILL SURELY CHANGE!
BROTHER SHAN, HOW COULD YOU STILL PAINT...
UNLESS YOU STILL BELIEVE THAT FATE CAN BE CHANGED?
HMPH!

THIS...
swish
swish


All the cherry blossoms are falling, a jinx arrives...
ALL THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE FALLING,
A JINX ARRIVES ?

YOU SHOULD TELL HER THAT SHE WILL WIN THE PAGEANT,
BUT WHEN SHE DOES, SHE WILL DIE
AH!
THERE'S ONLY WAY TO MAKE SURE SHE LIVES A PEACEFUL LIFE
GIVE UP THE PAGEANT, RETURN HOME, AND BECOME AN ORDINARY WIFE
IS THERE
NO WAY FOR HER TO WIN THE PAGEANT AND NOT DIE?

NONE.
WHY...
WHY... WHY MUST DREAMS BE SACRIFICED?
IF YOU LOOK, YOU WILL SURELY FIND A WAY!
BROTHER SHAN!
ARE YOU REALLY SO CRUEL, WILLING TO LET HER DIE? WE MUST TRY...
I ONCE TRIED TO SAVE THEM...

YOU THINK EVERYONE CAN JUST GIVE UP EVERYTHING, AND JUST ACCEPT THE WAY TO CHANGE DESTINY?
LIKE YOU, FOR EXAMPLE...
THE PROPHECY I GAVE TO YOU THEN...

IF YOU HAD GIVEN UP YOUR DREAMS,
AND CHOSEN A PATH LIKE ALL OTHER LADIES,
MARRYING A MAN WHO LOVES YOU, WEN MO YAN,
YOU WOULD BE A GOOD WIFE, AND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WOULD BE BLISSFUL.
YOUR PARENTS WOULD GROW OLD WITH NO WORRIES...

WEN MO YAN WOULD LOVE YOU AND PROTECT YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE,
IT WOULD BE A SUCCESS, AND FAMOUS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.
YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER WOULD INHERIT THE FAMILY BUSINESS OF MAKING INKSTONES,
Chuei
HE NEVER WOULD HAVE STEPPED ON THIS CRUEL AND EVIL PATH...

IF YOU SACRIFICE YOUR DREAMS, THEN YES, YOU CAN ALTER THE FATES OF MANY PEOPLE
ARE YOU WILLING?
ARE YOU WILLING?
whoosh
whoosh
whoosh

A JINX ARRIVES?
HE HOPES YOU WILL RETURN TO YOUR HOME-TOWN...
YOUNG MASTER SHAN SAID THAT?
I WILL! AFTER I WIN THE PAGEANT AND THE PRIZE MONEY!
Miss, you have a good chance!
WELL.
THEN MISS WAN XIANG, HAVE YOU MET ANYONE STRANGE RECENTLY?

LAY YOUR WORRIES TO REST MY GOOD YOUNGER SISTER!
WE PERFORMERS MEET LOTS OF PEOPLE, HUNDREDS EACH DAY.
I KNOW WHO TO TRUST!
I WILL DEFINITELY RECOGNIZE THE JINX!
PROMISE ME! BE CAREFUL IN EVERYTHING YOU DO!
I WILL.
HER CONCERN IS SO TOUCHING
MORE IMPORTANTLY, MISS YING SHUANG...
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT THE CHUE! FAMILY HAS BEEN WIPED OUT

THANK YOU
I WILL NEVER FORGET IT, NOT EVEN IN DEATH. I WILL KEEP MY PROMISE TO HELP YOU WIN YOUR LAW-SUIT
YOUR FAVOR OF GIVING ME THEIR LAST INSTONE
BROTHER SHAN, HE
WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW, MISS YING SHUANG?
HAHA... IT IS TO ME!
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS?
SO YOU LIKE YOUNG MASTER SHAN, HUH?
BA-THUMP

THESE RED CHERRY BLOSSOM HAIRPINS WILL BE OUR BOND...
SINCE WE BOTH ARE ALONE AND WITHOUT FAMILY, LET US BE SWORN SISTERS!
FOR YOU! A RED CHERRY BLOSSOM HAIRPIN
LET'S MAKE A WISH!
MAY BOTH OUR WISHES COME TRUE,
AND MAY WE BOTH MARRY MEN WE LOVE.
MAY OUR SWORN SISTERHOOD END ONLY IN DEATH.
SILK SMOCK FROM WEST LAKE,
SILKEN SHOES FROM XIANG GOU,
PHOENIX HAIRPIN, JADE, BEADS
Shang Chun Garden

SIGH..
ITS NOT ENOUGH, EVEN AFTER I SOLD THE INKSTONE!
I NEED MORE SILK FOR MY OUTFIT!..
SISTER WAN XIANG! A MAN HAS ASKED FOR YOU BY NAME!
HE'S WAITING FOR YOU IN MUDAN HALL.
HOW ANNOYING. I'M GOING TO RUN YOUR BILL UP!
YOU ARE WAN XIANG?
YES, SIR.
IS THIS YOUR FIRST VISIT TO SHANG CHUN GARDEN, SIR?
LET ME GET YOU SOME WINE AND FOOD, AND SING A SONG FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT!

I HAVE SOME GIFTS FOR YOU.
NO NEED. I KNOW YOU WANT TO WIN THE BEAUTY PAGEANT
I BELIEVE THIS WILL HELP YOU DOUBLE YOUR CHARM AND LET YOU BE MISS BIAN SHUI.
WOW!
PEARLS FROM THE SOUTH SEA, GUZHENG FROM SHI XIN, TOP QUALITY SILK FROM ZHOU, SO MUCH!
OH MY! I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING TO DESERVE ALL THIS!
HOW CAN I REPAY YOUR GENEROSITY?
ANSWER ME.
DID YOU PAWN THIS INKSTONE?
YES!
HM...

THE GIRL WHO GAVE YOU THIS INSTONE.. I NEED YOU TO BRING HER TO MEET ME!
THIS INKSTONE MEANS A LOT TO HER..
I'D LIKE TO RETURN IT TO HER IN PERSON
MAY I ASK YOUR NAME..?
HUH...?

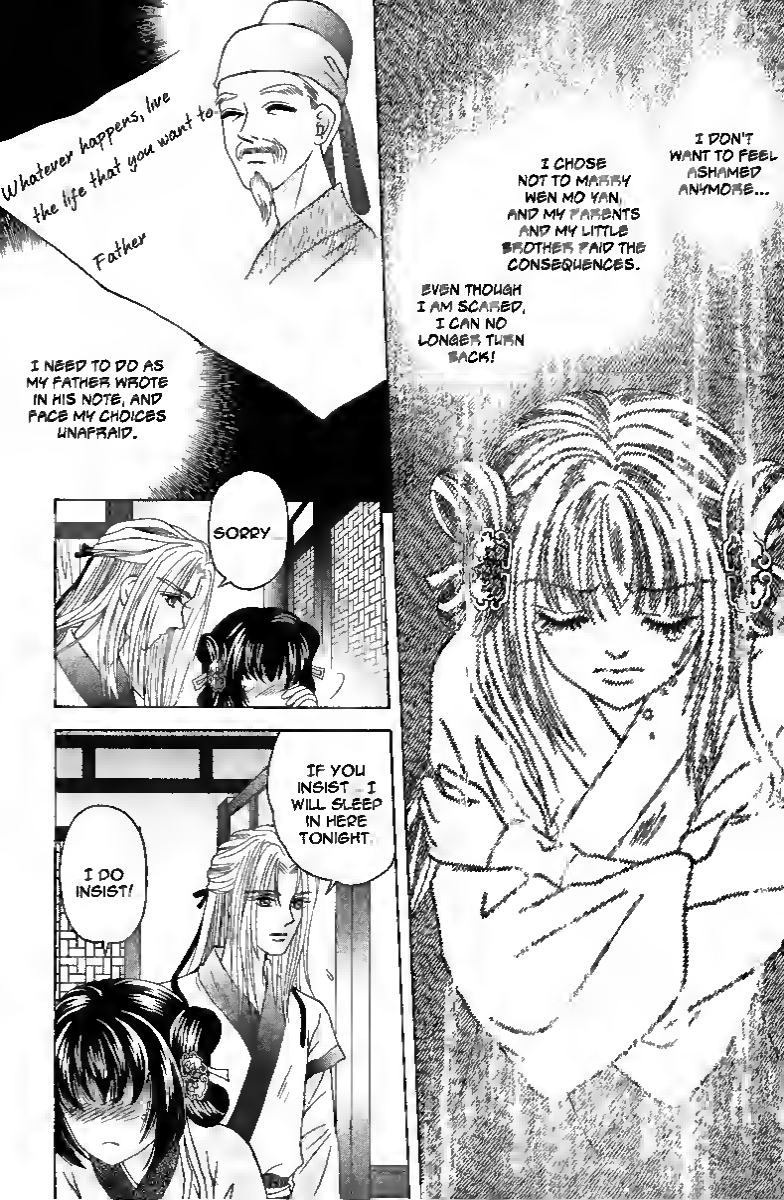
I AM THE ONLY RELATIVE SHE HAS LEFT IN THIS WORLD...
I KNOW THAT SHE WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO SEE ME!
I WORRY THAT SHE IS IN DANGER, WANDERING OUTSIDE...
MISS WAN XIANG, PLEASE BRING HER TO WANG YUE TOWER
I WILL REWARD YOU RICHLY

YING SHUANG, TAKE A LOOK!
...
WANG FAMILY'S ELDEST SON DE CHUEN, LIN FAMILY'S SECOND SON FUU SHIN, HM...
THESE ARE ALL MEN'S NAMES...
THESE ARE ALL GENTLEMEN WHO COME FROM GOOD FAMILES...
I HAVE ALREADY "LOOKED" AT ALL OF THEM...
THEIR FAMILY AFFAIRS WILL BE STABLE FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT FIVE GENERATIONS. MANY OF THEM ARE WELL-EDUCATED BENEVOLENT MERCHANTS...
I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING...
UM... WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BROTHER SHAN?

I NEVER SAID I WANT TO MARRY!
I WANT TO FIND YOU A GOOD HUSBAND, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR FUTURE
TRYING TO CARRY OUT YOUR FATHER'S WILL
SO YOU WANT TO FOLLOW ME AND TRAVEL AROUND FOREVER?
WHY NOT?
SURE!

YOU ARE TOO NAIVE!
YOU ARE TOO CYNICAL!
IT IS LATE
YOU SHOULD GET SOME REST...
I'M HEADING OUT.
WAIT!

IT'S MY TURN TO SLEEP OUTSIDE! THAT WOULD BE FAIR
YING SHUANG! DON'T...
YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF ME THIS WHOLE TIME...
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW I CAN REPAY YOU...
I DON'T WANT TO TROUBLE ANYONE AGAIN!
IF YOU CAN CAMP OUTSIDE, SO CAN I!
WHY DO YOU CHOOSE TO FOLLOW A DIFFICULT PATH...


Whatever happens, live the life that you want to.
Father
I NEED TO DO AS MY FATHER WROTE IN HIS NOTE, AND FACE MY CHOICES UNAFRAID.
I CHOSE NOT TO MARRY WEN MO YAN, AND MY PARENTS AND MY LITTLE BROTHER PAID THE CONSEQUENCES.
EVEN THOUGH I AM SCARED, I CAN NO LONGER TURN BACK!
I DON'T WANT TO FEEL ASHAMED ANYMORE...
SORRY
IF YOU INSIST - I WILL SLEEP IN HERE TONIGHT
I DO INSIST!

I THINK...
I REALLY HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH BROTHER SHAN...
WITH HIM IN THE ROOM... I FEEL SAFE...

Muscle ache
BLANKET?
YING SHUANG IS ALREADY AWAKE...
HM...
YING SHUANG... LAST NIGHT, I SEEM TO HAVE DREAMT OF YOU...
IN AN ENDLESS DESERT, SHINING WITH GOLDEN LIGHT...
HOWEVER, I AM AFRAID OF SEEING YOU TOO CLEARLY...
GOOD MORNING, SIR!
YOUR WIFE LEFT EARLIER!

THE CHERRY BLOSSOM PETALS ARE FLUTTERING ABOUT LIKE SNOW.
DO LIU YANG TOWN'S CHERRY BLOSSOMS BLOOM SO WELL EVERY YEAR?
OH! THIS YEAR IS QUITE SPECIAL, IT IS LIKE RED RAIN...
inn
THESE CRIMSON RED CHERRY BLOSSOMS.. SEEM TO BE FALLING QUITE ABNORMALLY...
Isn't he blind?

YING SHUANG, COME WITH ME
WANG YUE TOWER...?
望月樓
Wang Yue Tower
COME...
HUH? MY RELATIVE...?
YOUR RELATIVE IS LOOKING FOR YOU...

I WILL LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE HAVE FUN CHATTING
I still have a relative?
YING SHUANG,
I REALLY MISS YOU...
creak
PON

I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU!
WEN MO YAN! SO IT'S YOU!
DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
YING SHUANG

YING SHUANG! DON'T BE AFRAID OF ME
SLICE
NEVER IN MY LIFE WOULD I MARRY A MURDERER! GIVE IT UP!
FOR WHOSE SAKE DO YOU THINK I KILLED? DO YOU THINK I WANTED TO FALL INTO THE PATH OF THE DAMNED?!

WEN MO YAN WOULD HAVE LOVED YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE
HE WOULD NEVER HAVE STEPPED ON THIS CRUEL AND EVIL PATH
...!
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
YING SHUANG!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

I WON'T KILL ANY MORE.
ONLY YOU CAN SAVE ME...
YING SHUANG...
LEAVE WITH ME! YING SHUANG!
DON'T BREAK MY HEART ANYMORE... DON'T RUN FROM ME ANYMORE.

I SWEAR TO LOVE YOU IN THIS LIFE AND ALL THE OTHERS THAT FOLLOW!
HOW EXQUISITE!
THIS BRACELET

I WANT YOU TO PUT THE DRUG IN THAT BRACELET INTO SHAN YU MU'S DRINK
WHAT KIND OF DRUG..? DRUG?
IT WILL JUST MAKE HIM GO TO SLEEP
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS, MISS WAN XIANG
BUT YING SHUANG WAS ACTUALLY KIDNAPPED BY SHAN YU MU

SHAN YU MU IS SUSPECTED OF MANY MURDERS...
IN ORDER TO PROVE HIS SUPPOSED INNOCENCE, HE HAS KIDNAPPED YING SHUANG
AND THIS HAS ALSO HURT HER REPUTATION
NOW, I HAVE FINALLY FOUND YING SHUANG
SHE WANTS ME TO HELP HER ESCAPE AT ONCE...
HOWEVER, SHAN YU MU IS TOO POWERFUL...

YES!
I UNDERSTAND! FOR MY SWORN SISTER, YING SHUANG.
I WILL TELL HER YOU SAID SO
I WOULD LIKE TO SAY GOODBYE TO HER
...
SHAN YU MU IS SURE TO COME AFTER YOU!
THE BEAUTY PAGEANT IS TOMORROW. I HAVE ORDERED AN ALLURING GREEN DRESS FROM THE TAILOR. IT SHOULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED TO YOUR ROOM AT SHANG CHUN GARDEN
WITH THAT, YOU WILL SURELY WIN

Wang Yue Tower
...
SISTER YING SHUANG'S RED CHERRY BLOSSOM HAIRPIN...
SISTER YING SHUANG

SISTER YING SHUANG...
ARE YOU IN THERE?
SISTER WAN XIANG!
SISTER WAN XIANG, IS THAT YOU?
PLEASE HELP ME GET OUT OF HERE! I'M LOCKED IN!
SISTER WAN XIANG!
HUH?
WHAT HAPPENED?
DON'T YOU WANT TO RETURN TO YOUR HOMETOWN WITH YOUR RELATIVE?
NO!

MO YAN IS A MURDERER!
MURDERER ...?
THEN... THEN... SHAN YU MU, HE...
I CAN'T OPEN IT!
CLANK!
step step
SISTER WAN XIANG! PLEASE HELP ME OUT OF HERE, AND THEN I WILL EXPLAIN THE DETAILS!
CLANK!
OH! RIGHT

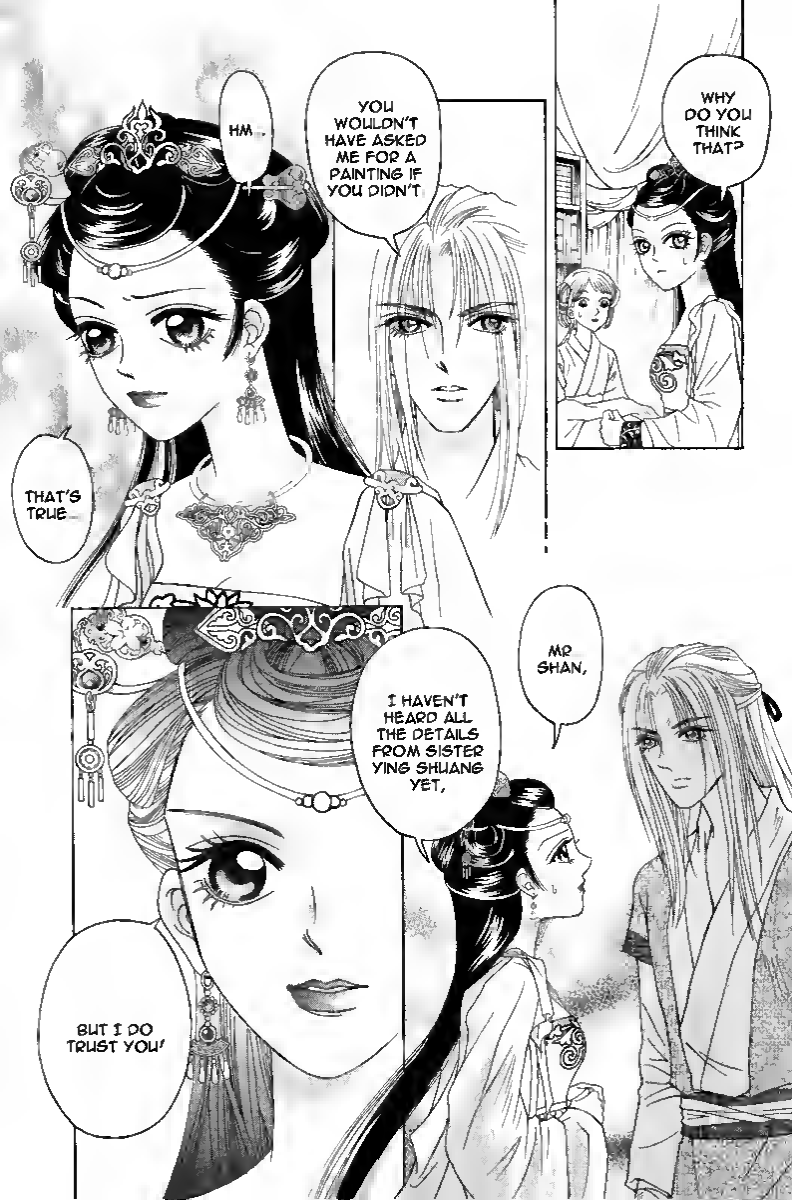
GRR!
HEY! WHO'S THERE?
?
SISTER YING SHUANG! QUICKLY, TAKE THIS!
THIS...
A BRACE-LET?
LISTEN CLOSELY! THERE IS A DRUG INSIDE THAT BRACELET...
YOU CAN USE IT TO FAKE BEING SICK...

TOMORROW IS THE BEAUTY PAGEANT. I CAN'T SAVE YOU MYSELF.
BUT I WILL SEND SOMEONE TO SAVE YOU. TRUST ME!
YOU HEAR?
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH BOY! YOU SURPRISED ME...
I AM AN ENTERTAINER FROM SHANG CHUN GARDEN.

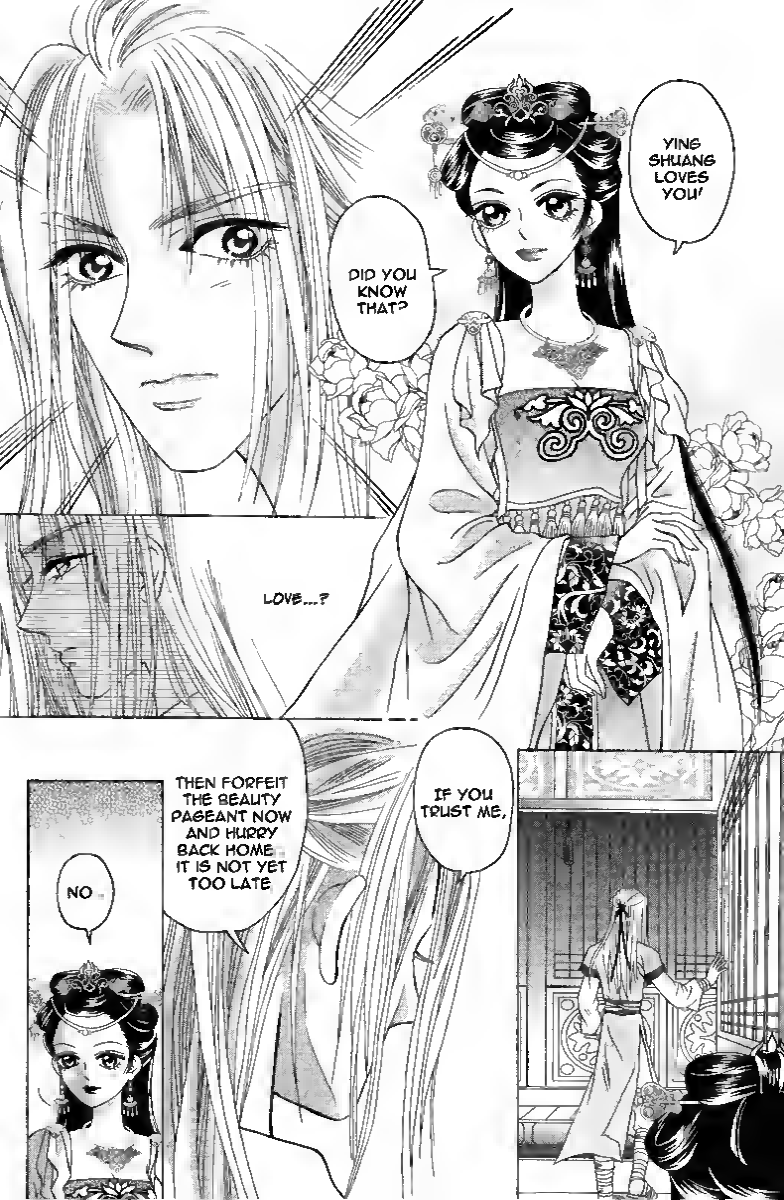
A GENTLEMAN CALLED ME TO WANG YUE TOWER TO ENTERTAIN HIM OVER-NIGHT...
WAS IT YOU?
YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN! NOW GET OUT!
YING SHUANG... TRUST ME...
ARE YOU SURE IT WASN'T YOU?
Leave!
Wang Yue Tower

WOW! GOR-GEOUS!
MISS WAN XIANG MET A REALLY NICE GUY!
THAT GENTLEMAN REALLY GAVE YOU THAT WHOLE OUTFIT?
YOU'LL WIN FOR SURE, MISS WAN XIANG!

BURST!
SIR!
WAN XIANG IS NOT SEEING ANY CUSTOMERS TODAY!
HM...
WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU?
WHERE IS YING SHUANG?
WAN XIANG
BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE IN ME


WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?
HM...
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ASKED ME FOR A PAINTING IF YOU DIDN'T
THAT'S TRUE...
MR SHAN,
I HAVEN'T HEARD ALL THE DETAILS FROM SISTER YING SHUANG YET,
BUT I DO TRUST YOU!

SISTER YING SHUANG IS TRAPPED IN WANG YUE TOWER! HURRY AND SAVE HER!
I HAVE ALREADY SENT SERVANTS AND A DOCTOR
THIS IS SISTER YING SHUANG'S RED CHERRY BLOSSOM HAIRPIN. PLEASE RETURN IT TO HER FOR ME
AND .
WAIT!
OH!
THANK YOU, MISS WAN XIANG!


YING SHUANG LOVES YOU!
DID YOU KNOW THAT?
LOVE...?
IF YOU TRUST ME,
THEN FORFEIT THE BEAUTY PAGEANT NOW AND HURRY BACK HOME. IT IS NOT YET TOO LATE
NO

THIS AFTER-NOON,
I WILL WIN THE PRIZE
REMEMBER TO BRING SISTER YING SHUANG TO SEE ME!

CLANK!
YING SHUANG!!
huff
huff
YING SHUANG?!

YING SHUANG!
PLEASE WAKE UP NOW!
YING SHUANG!
MR WEN... SHE WASN'T POISONED BY A NORMAL POISON...
THIS... IN EIGHT HOURS... SHE... WOULD BE...
SHUT UP!
YOU HAVE TO CURE HER! OR ELSE I'LL KILL YOU!
IT'S... IMPOS-SIBLE!

YING SHUANG!
SHAN YU MU?!

SHAN YU MU! LOOK AT HER!
YOU CAN SEE, RIGHT? SHE'LL LIVE, RIGHT?
TELL ME SHE'S GOING TO LIVE!
IT IS TOO LATE...

"SOUL-SNATCHING POISON." THERE IS NO ANTIDOTE.
I CAN'T SEE HER FUTURE
!!

BA-THUMP
YING SHUANG! YING SHUANG!
...!
BA-THUMP
BA-THUMP
MR WEN HER PULSE HAS ALREADY.
SO FAR...
YOU'LL GO SO FAR TO ESCAPE FROM ME?

YING SHUANG, EVEN IF YOU DIE, IT WILL BE IN MY EMBRACE...
YING SHUANG!
CLANK
CLANK

MASTER WEN
EVERYONE GET OUT!"
NOBODY IS ALLOWED TO TOUCH HER WHILE I AM AWAY

THIS YEAR'S MISS BIAN SHUI IS...
WOW!
WOW!
WOW!
WOW!
WAN XIANG FROM SHANG CHUN GARDEN!

THIS YEAR'S WINNER IS EXCEPTIONALLY LOVELY!
YES INDEED!
MISS WAN XIANG IS LIKE AN ANGEL..
SO STUNNING!
BA-THUMP
SISTER YING SHUANG!! MR. SHAN! DID YOU SEE?
BA-THUMP
I FINALLY GOT MY WISH AND BECAME THE WINNER!

MY DREAM HAS FINALLY COME TRUE!
DID YOU SEE?
rustle

WHERE ARE YOU?
CAN YOU SEE ME?
YING SHUANG!
MR. SHAN!

WHOOSH!

MISS WAN XIANG, ARE YOU TIRED?
REST NOW A LOT OF GUESTS WILL COME TO CONGRATULATE YOU TONIGHT
AH!
啵!
THE RED CHERRY BLOSSOMS... LIKE FIRE IN THE SKY...

All the cherry blossoms are falling, a jinx arrives...
Pleasant sounds in the air as a beautiful flower withers.
The journey home is a long one, the soul departs first.

There is no antidote.
Eight hours
YING SHUANG?!
!
I HAVE BEEN DECEIVED!

Shadow of Visions
Volume 1 / The End

Shadow of Visions

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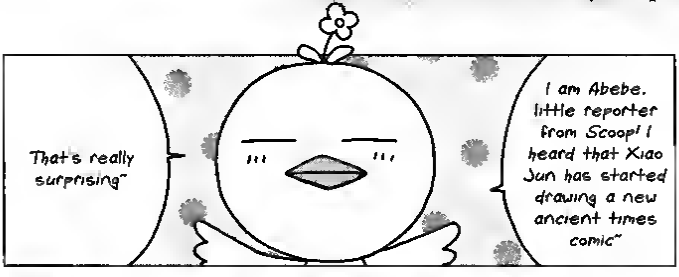
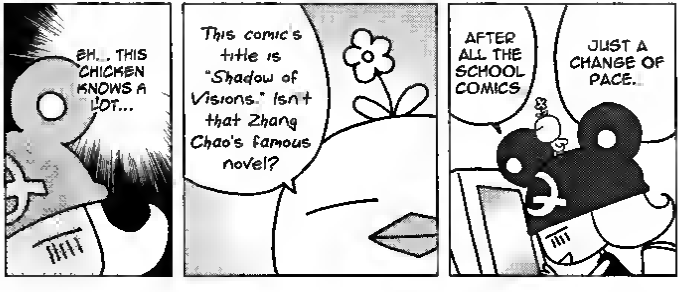
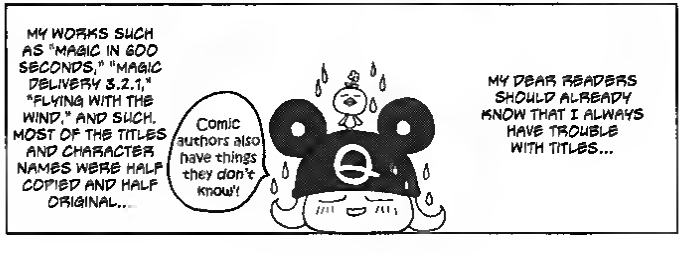
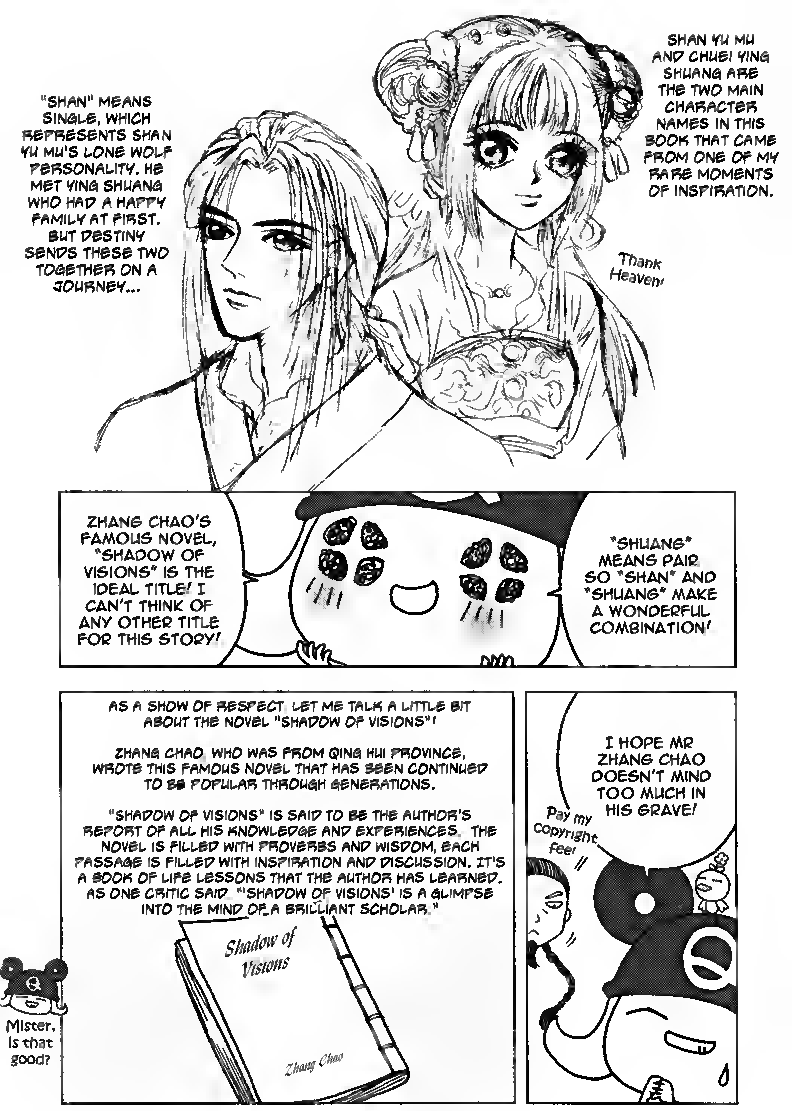
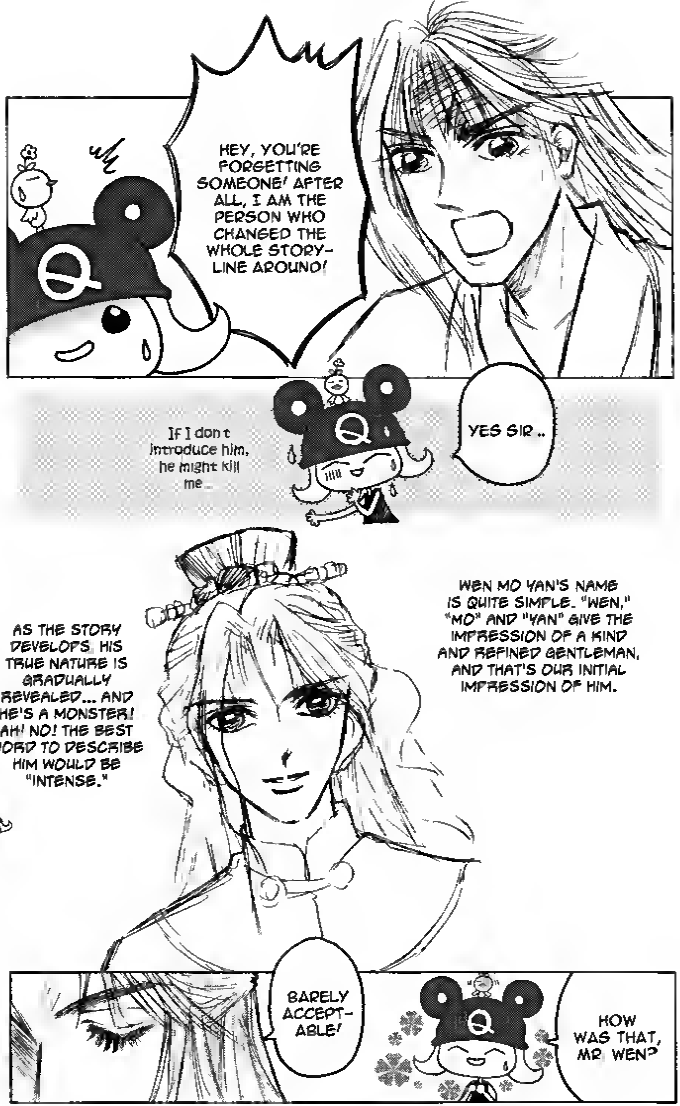
Xiao Jun SCOOP


That's really surprising~
I am Abebe. little reporter from Scoop! I heard that Xiao Jun has started drawing a new ancient times comic~


EH... THIS CHICKEN KNOWS A LOT...
This comic's title is "Shadow of Visions." Isn't that Zhang Chao's famous novel?
AFTER ALL THE SCHOOL COMICS
JUST A CHANGE OF PACE..


MY WORKS SUCH AS "MAGIC IN 60 SECONDS," "MAGIC DELIVERY 3.2.1," "FLYING WITH THE WIND," AND SUCH. MOST OF THE TITLES AND CHARACTER NAMES WERE HALF COPIED AND HALF ORIGINAL...
Comic authors also have things they don't know!!
MY DEAR READERS SHOULD ALREADY KNOW THAT I ALWAYS HAVE TROUBLE WITH TITLES...


"SHAN" MEANS SINGLE, WHICH REPRESENTS SHAN YU MU'S LONE WOLF PERSONALITY. HE MET YING SHUANG WHO HAD A HAPPY FAMILY AT FIRST. BUT DESTINY SENDS THESE TWO TOGETHER ON A JOURNEY...
SHAN YU MU AND CHUE! YING SHUANG ARE THE TWO MAIN CHARACTER NAMES IN THIS BOOK THAT CAME FROM ONE OF MY RARE MOMENTS OF INSPIRATION.
Thank Heaven!
ZHANG CHAO'S FAMOUS NOVEL, "SHADOW OF VISIONS" IS THE IDEAL TITLE! I CAN'T THINK OF ANY OTHER TITLE FOR THIS STORY!
"SHUANG" MEANS PAIR SO "SHAN" AND "SHUANG" MAKE A WONDERFUL COMBINATION!
AS A SHOW OF RESPECT, LET ME TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT THE NOVEL "SHADOW OF VISIONS"!
ZHANG CHAO, WHO WAS FROM QING HUI PROVINCE, WROTE THIS FAMOUS NOVEL THAT HAS BEEN CONTINUED TO BE POPULAR THROUGH GENERATIONS.
"SHADOW OF VISIONS" IS SAID TO BE THE AUTHOR'S REPORT OF ALL HIS KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES. THE NOVEL IS FILLED WITH PROVERBS AND WISDOM, EACH PASSAGE IS FILLED WITH INSPIRATION AND DISCUSSION. IT'S A BOOK OF LIFE LESSONS THAT THE AUTHOR HAS LEARNED. AS ONE CRITIC SAID "'SHADOW OF VISIONS' IS A GLIMPSE INTO THE MIND OF A BRILLIANT SCHOLAR."
Shadow of Visions
Zhang Chao
Mister, Is that good?
I HOPE MR ZHANG CHAO DOESN'T MIND TOO MUCH IN HIS GRAVE!
Pay my Copyright fee!


HEY, YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMEONE! AFTER ALL, I AM THE PERSON WHO CHANGED THE WHOLE STORY-LINE AROUND!
If I don't introduce him, he might kill me...
YES SIR..
AS THE STORY DEVELOPS, HIS TRUE NATURE IS GRADUALLY REVEALED... AND HE'S A MONSTER! AH! NO! THE BEST WORD TO DESCRIBE HIM WOULD BE "INTENSE."
WEN MO YAN'S NAME IS QUITE SIMPLE. "WEN," "MO" AND "YAN" GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF A KIND AND REFINED GENTLEMAN, AND THAT'S OUR INITIAL IMPRESSION OF HIM.
BARELY ACCEPT-ABLE!
HOW WAS THAT, MR. WEN?

Didn't Xiao Jun draw a short story for "Shadow of Visions" six years ago?
Would you include that story in the next book so we can read it?
YOU STILL REMEMBER THAT.?
Yes I do
Most online readers would also remember as well!
Everyone remembers all the bad things you've done!
HM... IN THAT CASE...
I'LL SHOW EVERYTHING!
BEHOLD! MY "THREE GENERATIONS" OF CHARACTER DESIGN FOR SHADOW OF VISIONS!

Third Generation
RECENT
Modern Age
Second Generation
AROUND THREE YEARS AGO
Middle Ages
THIS IS "3 GENERATION" OF YING SHIANG -
First Generation
AROUND SIX YEARS AGO
Stone Age
Friends! You are welcome to go to Xiao Jun official website - Xiao Jun Comic WOW! Please leave your comments for Shadow of Visions! ! Abebe. will be back for the next "Xiao Jun Scoop"!
I'M GOING TO DRAW THE NEXT CHAPTER
Happy!
THERE, HAPPY NOW...?

Website: http://sheau-giun.myweb.hinet.net/